



An Association of Independent  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans

# Building Tomorrow's Healthcare System

The Pathway to High-Quality, Affordable Care in America

## What Others Are Saying...

"Access to high-quality, affordable health care is one of the most important issues facing American families today. The Pathway plan not only identifies four pillars we must address to improve care while controlling costs in a comprehensive fashion, but it also outlines existing programs that are being successfully used in communities all across this country to achieve real results. This framework captures many critical issues preventing us from realizing an optimal American healthcare system and should be viewed as a resource for real world solutions to our health care crisis. I commend the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association for its continuing efforts to develop new ideas and tools for improving care."

~ **Senator Tom Daschle, Former U.S. Senator (D-SD)**

"We live in an era of rapid change and in no industry is this more evident than health care. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Action Plan recognizes the need to lead change and illustrates specific examples of ways in which plan members are already collaborating with stakeholders to make meaningful improvements. This type of leadership will do much to build tomorrow's health care system...today."

~ **Michael O. Leavitt, Former Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services**

"A greater focus on primary care is essential to moving away from today's fragmented fee-for-service-only system to a coordinated-care model that assures patients get the best possible care. The BCBSA plan put forward today not only reinforces that focus but emphasizes the critical partnership needed between providers and insurers. A resolute effort across the private and public sector is needed to increase care coordination, drive quality up and keep costs under control. We commend BCBSA for putting forth this comprehensive action plan, which recognizes the need for a solid primary care workforce to ensure all patients will have access to a patient-centered medical home."

~ **Glen Stream, MD, MBI, President, American Academy of Family Physicians**

"The 'Pathway to High-Quality, Affordable Care in America' released today by BCBS highlights some of the key strategies we must adopt to achieve better care for patients, healthier communities, and greater value for our health care dollars. BCBS plans are taking important steps to transform care delivery by building a strong foundation of primary care, promoting better care coordination for patients, and implementing payment strategies that encourage better quality and more affordable care."

~ **Debra L. Ness, President, National Partnership for Women & Families**

"The American healthcare system is at a critical crossroad that is going to require a significant public-private effort to fix it. Building a better healthcare system resides in the hands of everyone who directly or indirectly touches a patient in need. The American Osteopathic Association believes that this process starts with the patient-physician relationship and a health care system built on a foundation of continuous and comprehensive primary care. The recommendations presented by the Blues today in their 'Pathway to High Quality, Affordable Care in America' is a thoughtful roadmap for how to improve patient outcomes through collaborative efforts between physicians, insurers, and the government to achieve such a health care system. The AOA recommends that policy-makers at all levels of government give this proposal thoughtful consideration."

~ **Martin S Levine, DO, President, American Osteopathic Association**